

DOD INSENSITIVE MUNITIONS
INTEGRATED PROCESS TEAM

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Since the inception of the Inensitive Munitions (IM) program, the US Navy has sought a means to incentivize Program Managers and weapon developers to comply with the letter and spirit of IM criteria. For the Navy, platform survivability is tantamount, which is why developing and acquiring munitions that are insensitive and minimize unwanted collateral damage is crucial. Despite the progress within the Navy, the fact remained that the Navy was responsible for transporting weapons that belong to the other services, weapons that often did not meet the strict Navy IM criteria. These varying priorities placed on IM by the Services have long pointed to the need for a standardized approach to IM.

In 1985 the Navy requested that the Joint Requirements Management Board consider a joint requirement for Inensitive Munitions. After consideration, the management board recommended a joint requirement and tasked the Joint Logistics Commanders/Joint Ordnance Commanders Group to develop and issue an IM directive and technical criteria. By 1987, a Joint Services IM Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) had been developed and signed by the Service Secretaries.

Within a number of years, it became evident that the MOA did little to ensure that weapon developers integrated IM into their designs. Additionally, progress within the Department of Defense to achieve increased interoperability, implement joint weapon development and create a common weapon stockpile clearly showed the need for a common IM requirement in the acquisition process.

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With assistance from the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology (OUSD A&T), the issue was raised before the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) in November of 1995. The JROC decision noted: "...meeting operational requirements with the least sensitive system design is through the requirements process and should be updated as necessary throughout the acquisition life cycle for all acquisition programs." The JROC recommended changes to part 4 (Program Design) of DOD 5000.2 as well as Appendix II (Operational Requirements Document). These changes effectively place the IM requirement into both the acquisition and requirements arenas.

The changes to DOD Regulation 5000.2-R necessitated a uniform DOD level policy and program on IM. Recognizing this, The Director of Strategic and Tactical Systems (S&TS) under the OUSD A&T, established a working level Integrated Process Team for IM. Mr. Tony Melita from the Office of Munitions was tasked to chair the IPT. Each of the services, as well as DDESB and DOE, were asked to provide a representative to serve on the IPT. The team held their first meeting on 26 June 1997.

OUSD (S&TS) outlined five broad goals for the IPT to accomplish:

- Refine the DOD IM policy and program addressing IM issues associated with the acquisition and life cycle operational support for all systems containing high energetic material.
- Develop a recommended DOD position on the IM policy established by the NATO Allied Ordnance Publication 39
- Develop a process for reviewing all Services' systems for IM compliance during all phases of the standard and non-standard acquisition process
- Establish a single DOD level IM compliant data tracking system for all high energetic systems currently in the DOD inventory and those being developed and/or evaluated for the inventory
- Develop a plan of action and milestones for establishing and maintaining a consistent DOD policy and program on IM for weapons.

Since its establishment, the IPT has been steadily progressing toward accomplishing these goals. Through compromise, consensus, and cooperation, the services have overcome differences in

philosophy, structure and policy to craft initiatives that will achieve the aforementioned goals.

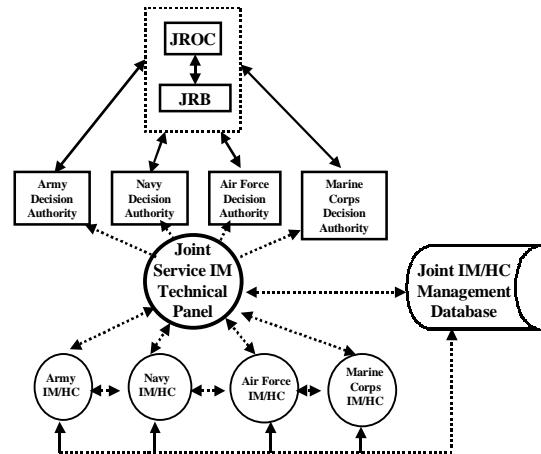
Current initiatives of the DOD IM IPT include:

- Revision of DOD 5000.2-R language for clarification
- Recommending IM language for weapon Operational Requirements Documents
- Staffing a statement of IM objectives for OUSD signature
- Developing methods to accommodate the JROC review of Services' waivers
- Providing guidance to US representatives of NATO Advisory Committee 310 subgroups, requesting IPT coordination on all issues related to IM.
- Developing a charter and structure for a Joint Services IM Technical Panel

Many of these initiatives are directly related to a weeklong workshop held at the Management Decision Center of the Defense Systems Management College in Ft. Belvoir, VA.

The workshop, sponsored by the Office of Munitions, was intended as an intensive effort to develop the structure and plans necessary to implement the DOD policy in DOD 5000.2-R. The structure currently proposed by the IPT forms a Joint Service IM Technical Panel. This panel consists of representatives from each of the services, and will review every weapon program prior to each milestone decision, thus ensuring that IM technology is inserted where applicable.

The proposed structure and organization are shown at right. A charter for this body is still under



Although a significant amount of work still remains, the DOD IM IPT has made substantial progress in developing a joint IM policy for all traditional and non-traditional acquisition programs. This policy will cover new development efforts as well as the large

stockpile of existing munitions. Procedures are under development to ensure that all programs, no matter what ACAT level, receive the necessary scrutiny to satisfy the DOD Inensitive Munitions (IM) Program Objective to increase safety and survivability by acquiring munitions which are insensitive, minimize unwanted collateral damage, and meet the established operational performance requirements.